tonnes per annum. The loss in production of the plant cannot be estimated as the plant was working much below its capacity for a long time.

Tyre Industry

1696. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:
SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tyre industry has incurred a net loss Rs. 60 crores, in a total turn over of Rs. 1600 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in an investment of Rs. 650 crores, the loss was 9.3 per cent;

(c) whether it is a fact that recent increase in the tyre prices does not take into account the corresponding increase in cost between the years 1981 and 1985; and

(d) what remedial measures Government propose to take to help the tyre industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) According to the Industry, on a total production of Rs. 1600 crores, it has incurred a loss of Rs. 60 crores or a negative profit of 9.3 per cent on an investment of Rs. 649 crores during 1984. However, as published accounts of most of the tyre companies for the year 1984 are not yet available, the actual position cannot be verified.

(c) and (d) Indian tyre industry manufactures over two hundred varieties of tyres with about five hundred tread patterns. Tyre companies have revised prices of different tyres manufactured by them at different times. Further, the extent of increase in prices of different sizes of tyres varies from unit to unit as well as within the same unit. As such, it is not possible to corelate directly the variations in tyre prices with changes in inputs costs. There is no control on prices or distribution of tyres. However, Government is closely monitoring the prices of tyres as well as raw material inputs and frequently interacts with the tyre industry as well as raw material producers so as to ensure reasonable stability in the prices of both tyres and raw material inputs.

Procurement of offshore supply vessels by ONGC

1697. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is to procure 150 offshore supply vessels and offshore platform support-cum-standby vessels during the period 1982-90;

(b) if so, whether indigenous shipyards are competent to meet the requirement;

(c) whether orders were placed with some indigenous shipyards;

(d) if so, what are the names of the shipyards with whom such orders were placed, with details of orders to each shipyard; and

(e) if the answer to (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) The requirements of the ONGC for OSV's/OPSSV's during the 7thé Plan are still to be finalised. To date ONGC has placed orders for the procurement of 33 vessels.

(b) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) Does not arise.